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is worthy the attention not only of our own newspaper statesmen, but of Irish secretaries as well

FREDERICK W. WHITRIDGE.

*The Kentucky Resolutions of 1798.* By ETHELBERT DUDLEY WARFIELD, A.M., LL.B., Barrister-at-Law. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York & London, 1887. — 203 pp.

The author of this *brochure* has undertaken to prove three theses directly, and one indirectly: — (1) That John Breckinridge more than shares with Jefferson the honor of drafting the Kentucky resolutions of 1798. Mr. Warfield compares the former to the sculptor, and the latter to the chiseller who merely applies technical skill to the realization of the artist's ideas. (2) That the reasoning of the Kentucky and Virginia resolutions lies at the base of the Hartford convention and of the secession movement of 1860–61; but (3) That the Jefferson resolution<sup>1</sup> alone is responsible for South Carolina nullification. (4) Indirectly he maintains that the Kentucky and Virginia resolutions contain the great conservative principle of the republic.

It is not worth while controverting these theses in so many words. Mr. Warfield presents the letter from Jefferson to Jos. Cabell Breckinridge in which Jefferson says that while conversing over the Alien and Sedition laws with W. C. Nicholas and John Breckinridge, he proposed a protest by some state. These two gentlemen begged Jefferson to draw up such a document, and Breckinridge offered to present it to the Kentucky legislature. Jefferson drafted the resolutions and presented them to Breckinridge. The author then presents us with Jefferson's draft and with the Kentucky resolutions, in which the first seven articles coincide almost literally, the last two varying very little the one from the other, and asks us to credit Breckinridge with the political insight that formulated the issue over which party war was waged until reconstruction was complete. The second and third theses fall with the first; and the conservative vigor of the Kentucky and Virginia resolutions was exerted in vain in the war of the rebellion.

ROBERT WEIL.

*Le Gouvernement et le Parlement britanniques.* Par le comte DE FRANQUEVILLE, ancien maître des requêtes au Conseil d'État. Paris, J. Rothschild, 1887. — 3 vols., xii, 595, viii, 567, vii, 575 pp.

If the title of the work before us were reversed, it would perhaps give a fairer idea of the exact intention with which it is written. Two of its

<sup>1</sup> Jefferson, Works, book iv, part vi, p. 39.